

what we can all do if we have passion and heart, and if we work together.

Just look at HAMMER today. It is a first-rate facility that keeps Hanford workers safe.

HAMMER has created jobs. It has created economic opportunities and development, and it has the potential now to be a Homeland Security training center for first responders across the country.

Our entire country owes Sam a debt of gratitude for all he has done for so many people.

During my years in the Senate, I have worked with a lot of people. But no one—no one—has come close to matching Sam's energy, his commitment, and his success.

Sam has been a role model to me and to all of us who want to spend our lives giving something back to the communities we care about most. I thank him for helping me be a better representative for all the people of my home State.

Sam was a one-person Chamber of Commerce. He was a visitor's center and he was a cheerleading squad all wrapped into one. Sam Volpentest was the heart and soul of the Tri-Cities. He was one of a kind. Sam will be dearly missed, but he will not be forgotten.

LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 2005

Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, I rise today to speak about the need for hate crimes legislation. Each Congress, Senator KENNEDY and I introduce hate crimes legislation that would add new categories to current hate crimes law, sending a signal that violence of any kind is unacceptable in our society. Likewise, each Congress I have come to the floor to highlight a separate hate crime that has occurred in our country.

On October 31, 2002, Patrick Vogrich a State-funded caregiver, bludgeoned his disabled client Larry Rap to death with a hammer in an apartment outside of Chicago, IL. The apparent motivation for the attack began when Mr. Rap ran into Mr. Vogrich with his wheelchair. According to police, Mr. Vogrich was convicted of murder on November 19, 2002.

I believe that the Government's first duty is to defend its citizens, to defend them against the harms that come out of hate. The Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act is a symbol that can become substance. I believe that by passing this legislation and changing current law, we can change hearts and minds as well.

SEQUENTIAL REFERRAL RE- QUEST—INTELLIGENCE AUTHOR- IZATION ACT FOR FY 2006

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that my letter to the majority leader dated September 29, 2005, be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

U.S. SENATE,
COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES,
Washington, DC, September 29, 2005.

Senator BILL FRIST,
Majority Leader, U.S. Senate,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. LEADER: Pursuant to paragraph 3(b) of S. Res. 400 of the 94th Congress, as amended, I request that the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2006, as just reported by the Select Committee on Intelligence, be sequentially referred to the Committee on Armed Services for a period of 10 days. This request is without prejudice to any request for an additional extension of five days, as provided for under the resolution. Moreover, the amended resolution provides that the period of referral does not begin to run until the committee to which the bill is referred receives the bill, "in its entirety and including annexes." Thus, the 10 days of initial referral will not begin to run until the Committee on Armed Services receives the classified annex to the bill, as well as the bill and report.

I request that I be consulted with regard to any unanimous consent or time agreements regarding this bill.

With kind regards, I am
Sincerely,

JOHN WARNER,
Chairman.

NATIONAL HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, we are currently observing National Hispanic Heritage Month, a time when many members of the Latino community and the country at large remember and celebrate the profound contributions of Hispanic culture that are woven into the great cultural fabric of America. National Hispanic Heritage Month is celebrated between September 15 and October 15, to coincide with the Independence Day anniversaries of nations throughout Latin America. In 1968, President Lyndon Johnson's proclamation of National Hispanic Heritage Month was authorized by Congress. In 1988, the recognition was expanded to a month-long celebration.

America is home to nearly 41 million Latinos, including a thriving population in my home state of Wisconsin. This month, we should take the time to embrace the many important contributions throughout American history of American Latinos that affect all of our everyday lives. This month we celebrate the historic efforts of Cesar Chavez, Jaime Escalante, Roberto Hernandez, Henry Cisneros, Ellen Ochoa and Roberto Clemente, to name just a few. We celebrate their work to break down barriers and create bridges for future generations.

But as we celebrate Hispanic heritage, it is also time to address the challenges that face the Hispanic community, such as access to education and health care, fair working conditions, racial profiling and, for many, an ability to keep their family together while working to become legal, permanent residents of this great country. I am a strong supporter of the SOLVE Act, introduced by Senators KENNEDY and

McCAIN, that would help keep many Latino families together while their petitions for permanent legal residency are processed. The legislation would help hard-working Hispanics and others become legalized citizens and would offer a new temporary worker program.

While we work to improve the immigration system, we must enhance the education of Latino students. Many Latino students face social, economic, and language barriers that can prevent them from receiving the top-quality education they, like all American students, deserve. We must increase funding for English proficiency programs, programs to help low-income students attend college, and programs to help parents involve themselves in their children's education. It must be a priority for Congress to ensure equal education for all so the Hispanic community can continue to flourish and contribute to American culture.

In closing, I express my hope that the 109th Congress begins to address these and other pressing priorities for Latinos across the country. We should not limit our celebration of National Hispanic Heritage Month to saluting the achievements of Hispanics, we also need to make sure that we act on the educational, health, labor and other needs of all Americans of Hispanic heritage.

WATER TECHNOLOGY AND INTERNATIONAL AID

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, fresh water is a substance that we as Americans assume will be available when and where we want it. However, the disruption of water and wastewater services following Hurricane Katrina and Hurricane Rita has shown how fragile those assumptions can be. The resulting fear, panic and instability are what we rarely experience in this Nation. However, as we look around the globe, those same fears, sense of panic, and sense of instability is a daily occurrence for over 1 billion people across the globe who have little or no hope for a speedy resolution of their concerns.

We must help solve the expanding problems of insufficient clean drinking water and inadequate wastewater treatment. These are matters of international importance for several reasons. First, we are a member of an increasingly international economy, and the expansion or contraction of economies the world over affects our industry and economy. Furthermore, disease knows no borders and can spread through water. Most importantly, we care about the well being of others. All these national policy goals are intimately related to adequate water and wastewater treatment across the world.

There are many ways that we can help address this world-wide problem. However, lasting solutions require that local individuals and institutions have the capacity to maintain and expand their own services.